

NCThinks Coordinators Enjoy Spring Training April 2011

NCThinks agency coordinators may not see themselves as baseball players. However, the group's spring training this year was designed to help state employees hit "home runs" with their cost-saving suggestions.

NCThinks is the suggestion system for North Carolina state employees. Employees can submit suggestions that save state money on the NCThinks website at www.ncthinks.nc.gov. Community college employees and public school employees can also submit suggestions because they are participants in the state retirement system.

"NCThinks is a wonderful way for state employees to participate in helping the state save money," said Peggy Beach, NCThinks State Coordinator and training facilitator.

Twenty-one agency and university coordinators attended the April 12 training in Raleigh. Topics included a review of the NCThinks website and program. Coordinators also learned how a suggestion moves through the NCThinks process. Each coordinator also gave a report from their agency and shared ideas with the entire group.

"I put a lot of emphasis on the group sharing ideas with each other," said Beach. "Interaction is a good way to learn and a good way to feel that you are part of the process."

Since many coordinators from outside Raleigh were unable to attend training, Beach is planning a webinar on June 15 for community college and university coordinators.

The NCThinks agency coordinators meet quarterly. To submit suggestions online, check out the NCThinks website at www.ncthinks.nc.gov.



NCThinks Coordinators Training, April 12, 2011 in Raleigh.

First row, sitting, l to r: Peggy Beach, NCThinks State Coordinator; Margaret Anderson, Department of Transportation; Arlene Lindsay, Cherry Hospital; Beverly Townsend, Office of State Personnel, Felicia Davis, Department of Health and Human Services.

Second row, standing, l to r: Rick Roberson, Department of Public Instruction; Martha Cunningham, State Health Plan; Janice Tolson, Edgecombe Community College; Kris Ross, NC Community College System; Marcia Coley, Wildlife Commission; Terri Butler, Crime Control and Public Safety; Audrey Hunter, Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Melodi Steinberg, Department of Cultural Resources; Frances Forney, Department of Revenue.

Third row, standing, l to r: Jeremy Roberts (in red), Office of State Controller; Mike Daniels, Secretary of State; and Keith Batchelor, (under clock), Employment Security Commission.

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